GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1457
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2004
ELECTRONIC AUCTION SYSTEM
Meghwal Shri Kailash

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched electronic system recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which corruption would be curbed by using the said system?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a): An electronic auction system has been introduced for tea auctions.

(b): Electronic auction for tea has been launched in Coimbatore and in Guwahati under a new internet based India Tea Portal of the Tea Board. This is part of a scheme which covers other auction centres at Siliguri, Kolkata, Kochi and Coonoor. Besides, the Tea Board has licensed an auction centre at Coonoor run by M/s. Tea Serve, a cooperative society of producers. The Tea Board has also issued a licence for an electronic auction centre at Jalpaiguri.

(c): The new electronic auction system in tea is expected to bring about greater transparency in transactions as there is a provision to have the full bidding history of all teas offered for sale at the auctions. The system will itself generate the sale contracts and delivery orders, which will help in eliminating any possible evasion of sales tax. Further, information on each traded lot would be available to all the users of the system, including the regulatory body, so that informed decisions could be taken by each stakeholder.